Consumer Courts/Forums

†827. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether consumer protection courts/forums have been established at the State level and district level;

(b) whether Government provide any assistance to the State Governments for the establishment of above courts/forums;

(c) if so, the funds allocated during the last three years for this purpose, State-wise;

(d) the number of cases pending in consumer protection courts/forums at the State level or district level and the effective steps proposed to be taken for speedy disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The establishment of State Commissions and District Fora and providing infrastructural facilities, manpower etc. for their effective functioning is the responsibility of the State Governments/UTs. However, in order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, the Central Government provided a One-Time financial assistance for strengthening infrastructural facilities of Consumer Fora to the extent of Rs. 61.80 crore during 1995-96 & Rs. 10.20 crore during 2004-05 to the States/UTs. Under the scheme of "Integrated Project on Consumer Protection", additional financial assistance of Rs. 40.32 crore has been extended to States during 2006-07 to meet the gap in infrastructure of Consumer Fora. A further sum of Rs. 24.31 crore has been released to States so far under this scheme during the current financial year.

(c) The financial assistance released to States/UTs during last 3 years is as follows:

Sl.No.	Year	Amount (Rs. in Crore)
1.	2004-05	10.20 (Under One-Time Grant)
2.	2005-06	NIL
3.	2006-07	40.32 (Additional assistance under the scheme of "Integrated Project on Consumer Protection")

The State-wise details of the financial assistance released during 2004-05 & 2006-07 are given at Statement I & II respectively (*See* below).

(d) Statement of cases pending in Consumer Fora at the State & District levels as provided by National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (National Commission) and States/ UTs are at Statement-III & IV. (*See* below)

Some of the important steps undertaken by the Central Government to improve functioning of Consumer Fora and facilitate speedy disposal of cases therein, are given below:

(i) Financial assistance is extended to the States/UTs to supplement their efforts for strengthening the infrastructure of the Consumer Fora to facilitate their effective functioning.

(ii) The Government has undertaken a project for "Computerization and Computer Networking of Consumer Fora in the country" through the National Informatics Centre under which all the Consumer Fora would be fully computerized and connected through network for exchange of information among the Consumer Fora and Counsumers. This would enable the consumer Fora to access information faster leading to quicker disposal.

(iii) In order to review the functioning of Consumer Fora to expedite disposal of pending cases, the Central Government as well as the National Commission are regularly monitoring the performance of the Consumer Fora.

(iv) There is a proposal to amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 which contains, among other things, various provisions to facilitate quicker disposal of cases.

Statement-I

State-wise details of Assistance released under the scheme of One Time Grant of 2004-05 *for strengthening the infrastructure of Consumer Fora*

(*Rs. in Lakh*)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Amount released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	105.00
2.	Bihar	45.00
3.	Jharkhand	75.00
4.	Haryana	45.00
5.	Madhya Pradesh	105.00
6.	Chhattisgarh	75.00
7.	Maharashtra	45.00
8.	Mizoram	75.00
9.	Nagaland	15.00
10.	Orissa	270.00
11.	Rajasthan	45.00
12.	Uttarakhand	75.00
13.	West Bengal	45.00
	TOTAL:	1020.00

Statement-II

Assistance released to States during 2006-07 *under the Scheme of Integrated Project on Consumer Protection*

(*Rs. in Lakh*)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Amount released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	399.85
2.	Sikkim	67.30
3.	Madhya Pradesh	449.52
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	257.80

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Amount released
5.	Tripura	51.20
6.	Kerala	265.50
7.	Himachal Pradesh	197.27
8.	Chhattisgarh	298.22
9.	Mizoram	154.50
10.	Gujarat	331.92
11.	Orissa	296.61
12.	Rajasthan	273.30
13.	Maharashtra	311.24
14.	Meghalaya	75.86
15.	Uttarakhand	143.04
16.	Uttar Pradesh	459.00
	TOTAL:	4032.13

Statement-III

Statement of Cases Filed/Disposed of/Pending in the National Commission and State Commissions

Sl. No.	Name of State	Cases filed since inception	Cases disposed of since inception	Cases Pending	% of Disposal	As on
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21673	18849	2824	86.97	31.12.2007
2.	A & N Islands	81	77	4	95.06	30.11.2007
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	46	34	12	73.91	31.12.2007
4.	Assam	2127	1122	1025	52.75	31.12.2007
5.	Bihar	12374	8481	3893	68.54	31.01.2008
6.	Chandigarh	7263	6983	280	96.14	31.01.2008
7.	Chhattisgarh	4110	3677	433	89.46	31.12.2007
8.	Daman & Diu and D&N Haveli	26	24	2	92.31	31.01.2008
9.	Delhi	27186	26140	1046	96.15	31.01.2008
10.	Goa	1946	1720	226	88.39	31.01.2008
11.	Gujarat	27535	22800	4735	82.80	31.12.2007
12.	Haryana	34217	19256	14961	56.28	31.12.2007
13.	Himachal Pradesh	14843	13931	912	93.85	31.12.2007
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	5410	4603	807	85.08	31.01.2008
15.	Jharkhand	3385	2595	790	76.66	31.01.2008

Sl. No.	Name of State	Cases filed since inception	Cases disposed of since inception	Cases Pending	% of Disposal	As on
16.	Karnataka	24430	24048	382	98.44	31.01.2008
17.	Kerala	21301	17316	3985	81.29	31.01.2008
18.	Lakshadweep	14	13	1	92.86	31.01.2008
19.	Madhya Pradesh	28014	25284	2730	90.25	30.11.2007
20.	Maharashtra	39856	23252	16604	58.34	31.10.20007
21.	Manipur	77	63	14	81.82	30.09.2007
22.	Meghalaya	200	141	59	70.50	30.09.2007
23.	Mizoram	132	118	14	89.39	31.12.2007
24.	Nagaland	94	64	30	68.09	31.12.2006
25.	Orissa	16700	9839	6861	58.92	30.11.2007
26.	Puducherry	836	781	55	93.42	31.01.2008
27.	Punjab	19739	14303	5436	72.46	31.01.2008
28.	Rajasthan	37403	31926	5477	85.36	31.01.2008
29.	Sikkim	31	29	2	93.55	31.01.2008
30.	Tamil Nadu	19413	16965	2448	87.39	31.01.2008
31.	Tripura	1059	997	62	94.15	31.01.2008
32.	Uttar Pradesh	51604	18257	33347	35.38	31.12.2007
33.	Uttaranchal	3154	2333	821	73.97	31.01.2008
34.	West Bengal	12100	11324	776	94.00	31.12.2007

Statement-IV

Statement of Cases filed/disposed of/pending in District Fora

Sl. No.	Name of State	Cases filed since inception	Cases disposed of since inception	Cases Pending	% of Disposal	As on
1.	Andhra Pradesh	166737	161565	5172	96.90	31.12.2007
2.	A&N Islands	503	448	55	89.06	30.11.2007
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	279	245	34	87.81	31.12.2007
4.	Assam	11857	10673	1184	90.00	31.12.2007
5.	Bihar	70402	59997	10405	85.22	30.11.2007
6.	Chandigarh	32920	31857	1063	96.77	31.01.2008
7.	Chhattisgarh	25878	23081	2797	89.19	31.12.2007
8.	Daman & Diu and D&N Haveli	123	103	20	83.74	31.01.2008

Sl. No.	Name of State	Cases filed since inception	Cases disposed of since inception	Cases Pending	% of Disposal	As on
9.	Delhi	183956	172252	11704	93.64	31.12.2007
10.	Goa	5487	4741	746	86.40	31.01.2008
11.	Gujarat	129974	109565	20409	84.30	31.12.2007
12.	Haryana	165155	148813	16342	90.11	30.11.2007
13.	Himachal Pradesh	45791	42977	2814	93.85	31.12.2007
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	19239	16749	2490	87.06	30.06.2006
15.	Jharkhand	27829	25115	2714	90.25	31.01.2008
16.	Karnataka	107704	103208	4496	95.83	31.01.2008
17.	Kerala	153108	143684	9424	93.84	31.01.2008
18.	Lakshadweep	53	53	0	100.00	31.01.2008
19.	Madhya Pradesh	119970	111418	8552	92.87	30.11.2007
20.	Maharashtra	187693	174188	13505	92.80	31.10.2007
21.	Manipur	968	962	6	99.38	30.09.2007
22.	Meghalaya	541	484	57	84.96	30.09.2007
23.	Mizoram	2387	1968	419	82.00	30.09.2007
24.	Nagaland	246	205	41	83.33	30.06.2006
25.	Orissa	71126	66726	4400	93.81	30.11.2007
26.	Puducherry	2446	2400	46	98.12	31.01.2008
27.	Punjab	107292	102091	5201	95.15	31.01.2008
28.	Rajasthan	213650	200146	13504	93.68	31.12.2007
29.	Sikkim	209	196	13	93.78	31.01.2008
30.	Tamil Nadu	85402	78253	7149	91.63	31.01.2008
31.	Tripura	1918	1713	205	89.31	31.12.2007
32.	Uttar Pradesh	439313	363236	76087	82.68	31.12.2007
33.	Uttarakhand	29035	27345	1690	94.18	31.01.2008
34.	West Bengal	65347	60977	4370	93.00	31.12.2007

Bogus ration cards

828. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 40 per cent of the ration cards meant for the below poverty line are being held by people who are not poor,

(b) whether it is also a fact that as per study in Uttar Pradesh alone there are 11 million ration cards and same thing is with so many other States;